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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/689,789	10/20/2003	Brent A. Hill	42P17630	7601
8791	7590	04/07/2006		
BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN 12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD SEVENTH FLOOR LOS ANGELES, CA 90025-1030			EXAMINER CHUNG TRANS, XUONG MY	
			ART UNIT 2833	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



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10/689,789

EXAMINER

X. CHUNG-TRANS

ART UNIT	PAPER
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2833

20060329

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Commissioner for Patents

Reply Examiner's Answer

This is in response to the reply brief filed on January 25, 2006.

In the reply brief, applicant alleges that the Examiner incorrectly states that there has been no known related appeal which may have a bearing on the Board's decision in the instant appeal. The examiner would like to point out that applicant's appeal brief filed August 25, 2005 specifically stated "there are no known related appeals and/or interferences" and that applicant is in the better position to state whether a related appeal which may have a bearing on the Board's decision at the time the appeal brief was filed. As to the outcome of the other application (10/404,975) after filing an appeal brief, the examiner would like to point out that the examiner voluntarily reopened prosecution to provide a more concise Office action and to further improve for purposes of appeal. Further, the examiner would like to point out that the instant application is going forward after an appeal conference was conducted and point out that the instant application and the '975 application are independent and distinct one from the other.

Xuong Chung-Trans

P. AUSTIN BRADLEY
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